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THE SECRETARY - ROOM 222

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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Honorable Louise Slaughter House of Representatives 1424 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

MAR 1 1 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Congresswoman Slaughter:

This is in reply to your letter of February 16, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Timothy Struczewski, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituent is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the \underline{Notice} .

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituent's conerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the <u>Notice</u>, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest. Your constituent's letter will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely

Richard J. Shiben

Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division

Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures

cc:

Chief, PRBureau Chief, LM&MDivison Docket Files, Room 222

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER 30TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

75

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February 16, 1993

Ms. Linda Townsend Solheim Director, Legislative Affairs Federal Communications Commission Room 808 1919 M Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Solheim:

Enclosed is a letter from one of my constituents, Mr. Timothy Struczewski regarding the current FCC proceeding, PR Docket 92-235. I would appreciate having the benefit of your comments on this issue.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am looking forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Louise Slaughter

Member of Congress

LMS/rr/bt

<u>.</u>

The Honorable Louise Slaughter 26 KEC 311 Federal Building Rochester, N.Y. 14614

1/24/93

Dear Ms Louise Slaughter,

I am a very active radio controlled model enthusiast. I derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating these radio controlled models. I am very active in a local club and compete regularly in both local as well as distant competition. This hobby requires a workshop full of products and tools necessary to maintain and operate these models. I personally own 7 radios and 7 radio controlled models.

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that is currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted the new rule will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for R/C model use and the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

Our radio-control frequencies are in the 72-75 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio-control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in PR Docket 92-235 replaces Part 90 of the rules with a new Part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R/C aircraft and surface models by keeping 10 KHz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies used by R/C enthusiasts. The new Part 88 will allow mobile users on frequencies within 2.5 KHz of frequencies available to us, eliminating safe use of at least 31 of the 50 channels on the 72 MHz band (for R/C aircraft) and 10 of the 30 frequencies on the 75 MHz band (for R/C cars and boats) now used by hobbyists. In fact, more channels will likely be affected.

When we opperate our R/C models, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders as well as the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of saftey will be greatly decreased.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to expand the operation conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of the radio-control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radio, but we have a considerable investment in our thodels and in our radio equipment. It is a sizable industry that must be saved from these detrimental FCC actions. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to hundreds of thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me to continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposal PR Docket 92-235 for the 72-75 MHz band. We all need your help urgently because the FCC has a deadline of February 26, 1993 after which it may become more difficult to avoid halting these proposals from going into effect.

Sincerely, Timothy Strugeuske